

STAFFORD COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

Agenda Consideration

TOPIC: Approval of Purchase: High School Mobile Laptop
Computer Labs

ITEM NO: 3M

PREPARED BY: Andrea Bengier, Assistant Superintendent for
Instruction and Technology

MEETING: September 13, 2005

ACTION DATE: September 13, 2005

Dave Mirra, Director of Instructional
Technology and Information Services

Mike Ballard, Technology Supervisor

ACTION REQUESTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT: That the Stafford County School Board approve the purchase of a total of eight (8) mobile wireless-networked Windows-based computer labs, and five (5) mobile wireless-networked Apple Macintosh iBook-based computer labs for use in the high schools. Each lab will consist of 31 laptop computers and associated peripherals. Upon completion of this purchase, all five high schools will each have three Windows-based mobile labs and one Apple Macintosh iBook-based lab appropriate to the high school curricula. Total estimated cost of this purchase will be \$700,193.35.

KEY POINTS:

- Research has shown that provision of mobile labs consisting of wireless-networked laptop computers have been very effective in supporting instruction, in that technology is brought to the students instead of moving the students to a lab. Recent experiences with these technologies in our own SCPS elementary, middle and high schools support this finding.
- Increased administration of the online version of the high school Standards Of Learning Tests strains desktop computer lab capacity. SCPS high schools must often displace Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes from their dedicated computer labs in order to administer the required tests within the specified test windows. This is a significant disruption and loss of valuable CTE instructional time. This initiative provides schools the flexibility to use the laptop carts to support continued instruction for the displaced CTE classes during school-wide online testing.
- This procurement continues the mobile lab high school deployment plan outlined in the Stafford County Integrated Technology Plan (2004 – 2010).
- SCPS standard Windows laptop computers (IBM ThinkPad R52) and the associated accessories and peripherals will be purchased from Sigma Systems, under Montgomery County Public Schools (Maryland) IT Contract. Apple iBook laptop computers and their associated peripherals will be purchased from Apple Computer under a Sole Source procurement.
- Purchase price from Sigma includes a 5-year warranty on each laptop. Purchase price from Apple includes three year AppleCare Protection Program warranty on each iBook
- Funding for these labs is provided under the Technology Infrastructure Development and Cyclic Replacement Program initiated during the 2005 Fiscal Year by the Stafford County School Board and supported by the Stafford County Board of Supervisors.

SCHOOL BOARD GOALS:

2. Integrate technology in support of all instruction.
- 5: Provide facilities that promote student learning and community support.

FUNDING SOURCE:

| <u>Contractor/Vendor</u> | <u>Funding Source (General Funds)</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| Sigma Systems | Cyclic Technology Program | \$458,196.80 |
| Apple Computer | Cyclic Technology Program | \$241,996.55 |

AUTHORIZATION REFERENCE: Stafford County Public Schools Integrated Technology Plan (2004-2010)